

Opportunity Title: Postdoctoral Research Associate - Crop Abiotic Stress

Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-PW-2023-0485

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

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A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcripts – [Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts](#)
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

Application Deadline 1/19/2024 11:59:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description *Applications are reviewed on a rolling-basis.

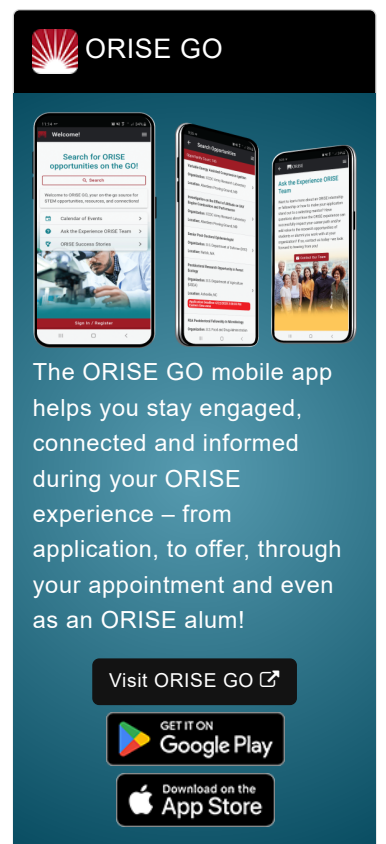
ARS Office/Lab and Location: A research opportunity is currently available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), located in Maricopa, Arizona

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency with a mission to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS will deliver cutting-edge, scientific tools and innovative solutions for American farmers, producers, industry, and communities to support the nourishment and well-being of all people; sustain our nation's agroecosystems and natural resources; and ensure the economic competitiveness and excellence of our agriculture. The vision of the agency is to provide global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence.

The mission of the Plant Physiology and Genetic Research Unit is to increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of agriculture in arid environments by developing new germplasm for both traditional and alternative crops and by improving plant responses to abiotic stresses and to changes in the global environment.


Research Project: A research opportunity is available to a motivated postdoctoral fellow interested in developing or furthering their experience with plant physiology (gas exchange, fluorescence, metabolomics) in field grown crops. The successful participant will join a team currently applying these techniques to better understand how crops respond to abiotic stress. We encourage exploration of crop responses that are of most interest to the fellow that support the overall goal of the Unit.


Learning Objectives: The fellowship will provide opportunities to learn about applied field physiology research in cotton, soybean, and other cropping systems that can be used to guide and inform lab studies. The




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fellow will have opportunities to improve their skills in public speaking, scientific manuscript writing, and critical evaluation of scientific literature. During the appointment, opportunities for travel to professional meetings, to visit stakeholders, and/or hands-on training at surrounding federal/university locations will be encouraged and may include stateside and foreign venues.

The fellow will gain practical experience in:

- Planning field research
- Collecting gas exchange, fluorescence, and various plant physiology related metrics
- Statistical analysis of plant physiology data
- Preparing manuscripts/grants
- Public speaking/presentations

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Matthew Herritt (matthew.herritt@usda.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor(s).

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: February 2024. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

Appointment Length: The appointment will initially be for two years, but may be renewed upon recommendation of ARS and is contingent on the availability of funds.

Level of Participation: The appointment is full time.

Participant Stipend: The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience.

Citizenship Requirements: This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the [Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details page](#) of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation.

ORISE Information: This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and ARS. Participants do not become employees of USDA, ARS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

Questions: Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process, please email ORISE.ARS.PacificWest@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.

Qualifications The qualified candidate should have received a doctoral degree in a

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relevant field (Plant Physiology, Plant Science, Agronomy, Genetics), or be currently pursuing the degree with completion by January 1, 2024. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Candidates with a proven track record of publication in peer-reviewed journals, grant writing, and delivering oral presentations are highly desirable.

Preferred skills:

- Punctuality and attention to detail.
- Experience with chlorophyll fluorescence, gas exchange (LI-6800), light interception, and basic wet lab skills.
- Statistical software (SAS)
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, as evidenced by presentations at professional society meetings is highly desirable.

Eligibility Requirements

- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 1/1/2024 11:59:00 PM.
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([2](#))
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([1](#))
 - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([3](#))
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([10](#))
 - **Mathematics and Statistics** ([11](#))
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).